

SB NEWSLIN @ ALLBBS \$NLIN.929
Amateur Radio Newsline #929 06 Jun 1995

Amateur Radio Newsline is produced as an audio service by Newsline, a service of the Westlink Radio Netowrk. The transcribed version is produced by Dale Cary, WD0AK0 from materials provided by Newsline. and is jointly distributed to online services and bulletin board networks by Steve Coletti and Dale Cary.

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Text Version information

BBS Networks: RIME - RO mail to Steve Coletti, ->35
Fido - Netmail to Steve Coletti @ 1:278/230
Others - Steve Coletti (within the conference)
Online Services: America Online - tstader@aol.com (Terry Stader, Sysop)
or D.CARY@genie.geis.com
Compuserv, Delphi, Genie - D.CARY@genie.geis.com
Usenet: rec.radio.info - david@stat.com (David Dodell, Moderator)
File Requests: FidoNet users can Freq the latest edition of NEWSLINE
from Joe Brown, KB2NBN 1:2625/111
FTP to oak.oakland.edu - wylz@neu.edu (Scott Erlich,
Boston ARC - libraian)
Internet E-Mail: Send mail to listserv@netcom.com with the
following commands in the body of the message
(the subject is ignored)
To subscribe: subscribe newsline-list
To unsubscribe: unsubscribe newsline-list
For more information: help

Manual mailing lists are also maintained by bigsteve@dorsai.org for
individual subscribers and by D.CARY@genie.geis.com for BBS's and
radio clubs that redistribute Newsline.

NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #929 - POSTED 06/05/95

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. For current information updates, please call

Audio Version of Newsline

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Los Angeles.....	(213)	462-0008
Los Angeles (Instant Update Line).....	(805)	296-2407
Seattle.....	(206)	368-3969
Seattle.....	(206)	281-8455
Tacoma.....	(206)	927-7373
Louisville.....	(502)	894-8559
Dayton.....	(513)	275-9991
Chicago.....	(708)	289-0423
New York City.....	(718)	353-2801
New York City.....	(718)	284-0752
Melbourne, FL.....	(407)	768-7449

Electronic Hardcopy Version of Newsline

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GEnie (RTC Bulletin Board).....	m345;1
GEnie (File Library).....	m345;3
Dallas Remote Imaging BBS (DRIG).....	(214) 492-7573
In bulletin number 36	
The Midwest Connection BBS.....	(701) 239-2440
In bulletin number 6 of the ham radio conference	
Delphi.....	In the ham radio conference
CompuServe/HamNet.....	HamNet Library 0
Internet.....	In the rec.radio.info newsgroup
Internet FTP: oak.oakland.edu.....	
In archive: pub/hamradio/docs/newsline	
Local BBS's.....	In the Ham Radio conferences on
Fidonet, RIME, Intellec, I-Link and AR-Net	

For questions or comments about the text version, contact me at D.CARY@GENIE.GEIS.COM on the Internet.

For the latest breaking info call the Instant Update Line listed above. To provide information please call (805) 296-7180. This line answers automatically and will accept up to 30 minutes of material.

Check with your local amateur radio club to see if NEWSLINE can be heard weekly on the air in your area.

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For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an SASE at P.O. Box 463, Pasadena, CA 91102.

Thank You
NEWSLINE

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Some of the hams of NEWSLINE RADIO...

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY
KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB4KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN
and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

(*****)

[929]

(* * * * C L O S E D C I R C U I T A D V I S O R Y * * * *)
(* * * * * *)
(* The following advisory is not necessarily for trans- *)
(* mission over amateur radio. This is just a reminder that *)
(* the address for the Newsline Support Fund is Newsline, in *)
(* care of Andy Jarema N6TCQ, Post Office Box 660937, Arcadia *)
(* California 91066. Again, and as always, we thank you. *)
(* This ends the closed circuit with Newsline report number *)
(* 929 for release on Friday, June 2nd, 1995 to follow. *)
(* * * * * *)
(* * * * * *)

The following is a QST

A law suit against a commercial bulletin board operator could impact on packet radio. Also, hams help run the Boston Marathon and an old friend is back on the satellite. These stories and more on Newsline report number 929 coming your way right now!

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BBS LAWSUIT

In a ruling that may broadly impact on what can be posted to

any electronic messaging system, a New York State judge has ruled that Prodigy Services Company is legally a publisher. That it can also be sued for the transmission and posting of writings of its subscribers. The decision by Judge Stuart Ain clears the way for a brokerage corporation to proceed with its libel suit against Prodigy that it filed last November. It also holds far reaching ramifications for ham radio messages sent via packet radio, posted to commercial bulletin boards and to the internet.

According to the New York City newspaper Newsday, Oakmont Stratton Corporation contends that a Prodigy subscriber posted allegedly libelous statements to the service in October of 1984. The company says that these included accusations of fraud at the time it was assisting another firm in its initial public stock offering.

In challenging the Oakmont Stratton position that it was responsible for the posting of its subscribers, Prodigy took the position that it is nothing more than a passive common carrier of information. That it was no different than a telephone company or a book store. Prodigy also claimed that over seventy five thousand notes are posted to its bulletin boards every day and it could not be responsible for the content of each one.

But judge Ain decided that Prodigy actually has an activist role in what is posted to its service. As such, it can be held accountable for what is put on the board by its users.

If Judge Ain's ruling is not appealed and if Prodigy loses in trial, it will set a precedent that can affect all forms of data transmission and posting. This could include the comments of hams on packet boards dealing with malfunctioning equipment for which they blame the manufacturer. It could also impact on those warning messages about hams that allege he or she has done something illegal. Or, in simpler terms. What happens in the Oakmont Stratton case in New York, could determine what you can post on your favorite PBBS in years to come

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NH AMATEURS NEW ANTENNA RULES

Some good news. The New Hampshire House and Senate have passed a bill protecting amateurs. House Bill 379 was originally written to include slightly stronger language regarding antennas than that contained in PRB-1. According to New Hampshire Section Manager Al Shuman, N1FIK, the language was then fine-tuned at the suggestion of members of the legislature who are friendly to Amateur interests.

The bill was filed on the coat tails of New Hampshire House Bill 1380, passed in 1994, which provides protection from taxing Amateur Radio towers as real property. House Bill 379 says that

no city, town, or county in which there are located unincorporated towns or unorganized places shall adopt or amend a zoning ordinance or regulation with respect to antennas used exclusively in the amateur radio services that fail to conform to the limited federal preemption entitled Amateur Radio Preemption issued by the Federal Communications Commission back in 1985.

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HAMS IN ABUNDANCE AT BOSTON MARATHON

Amateur Radio was widely in evidence at the 99th Boston Marathon that was run on April 17. This year's event saw 12,000 runners and 5,000 volunteers. Amateurs could be found at the starting line, shadowing rope holders and with other race coordinators. Hams were also stationed at all 26 Red Cross first aid stations, 13 water stations, at information booths and in the lead vehicle.

Hams also served on all of the sweep buses picking up injured runners, in all of the transportation for the VIP runners, in downtown Boston, at the finish line, in the medical tent, shadowing wheelchair escorts, and race officials.

Hams supplying marathon communication came from dozens of New England radio clubs.

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BUSINESS DOWN

While hams may have been in abundance at the Boston Marathon, they are not showing up in another important place. At ham radio conventions and other events. This. even though there are more hams than ever entering the service every month. As was found out at a recent gathering in Birmingham, Alabama, dealers working the convention circuit say that this will eventually impact on the price you pay for ham gear:

At the May 20th BirmingHamfest Amateur Radio Computer Convention, radio equipment dealers admit they're turning a profit, but they're quick to add, it's not like it used to be. Doc Barrett owns Doc's Communications in Rossville, Georgia. He says sales are about 50% of what they were five years ago.

"The equipment's just too high. Too expensive. People are keeping old gear and rebuilding it." Doc Barrett.

Barrett puts much of the blame on the American dollar's weak standing against the Japanese yen. He says radio equipment manufacturers are caught in a squeeze.

They're in a bind, trying not to go up out of reach, budget of the American people. I don't think they are gonna be able to do it." Barrett

A short distance away at the Radio Center USA booth, Larry Smith sells a 2 meter handie talkie. Smith has been attending hamfests for 16 years. He says sales are down about 20 percent from last year.

"What's working against us? Lack of interest in ham radio. Dayton was down. People didn't show up. The hamfest have been much slower. I was just in Kansas City, they were down 30 percent in Kansas City at that Hamfest this year." Larry Smith

Smith says he'll probably reduce the number of hamfests he attends. He blames part of the slump in sales on existing hams.

"We see a lot of new licensees that have no idea what this equipment is all about. Obviously the elmers are not there or are not doing their job. They need some assistance." Smith

On the other side of the exhibition hall, Radio Shack's Charles Carruba is all smiles. He says sales of Radio shack amateur equipment, including a new 2 meter mobile are going well.

"In the future you will notice more and more Radio Shack Amateur Equipment. Because we know there is a market out there. There is a need for it. If you can get a quality product, at a cheaper price, which would you buy?" Charles Carruba

Back at Doc Barrett's booth, price shoppers far outnumber the buyers. Barrett says his business survives because he also sells commercial radio equipment.

"Hamfests don't work anymore. We are probably going to go \$1000 in the hole on this hamfest." Barrett

Barrett says what the amateur radio industry needs are more American manufacturers. That, he believes, would mean more hams buying radios and dealers smiling, too.

Doc Barrett says that he has been going to Hamfests for 21 years. He used to attend 27 Hamfests each year. Now, that number has dropped to about 3. And with the number of hamfests some dealers attend dropping, you can bet that sponsors of some hamfests will have a harder time drawing dealers to their event.

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LEAGUE COMMENTS IN PREPARATION FOR WRC-95

The ARRL has filed reply comments to the FCC on topics of interest to amateurs in preparation for the International Telecommunication Union's World Radio Conference scheduled for later this year.

First, the League responded to a suggestion by Leo One USA that the spectrum 216 to 220 MHz might be allocated in the future for Mobile Satellite Service uplinks. The League said that spectrum already is heavily used in ITU Regions 1 and 3 by a number of services.

The ARRL also noted that the FCC has allocated 219 to 220 MHz to amateurs, on a secondary basis, for point-to-point fixed digital message forwarding systems.

Regarding future conferences, the League said since the conferences now are predictably scheduled, the FCC should adopt a permanent and forward looking preparatory process, with timetables sufficiently long for public comment to be thoughtful and comprehensive. The League also recommended a more formal industry advisory committee process be put in place.

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TWIRAR BACK ON THE BIRD

Some really good news for those who have not already heard it. Word that our close friends at "This Week in Amateur Radio" returned the program to its former home on Telstar 302, transponder 21, on Saturday, May 20th. The amateur radio bulletin service, based in upstate New York, had lost access to the satellite following the announcement that the "Omega Radio Network" was ceasing its operations on April 30th.

"This Week in Amateur Radio" provides ARRL Bulletins, "Amateur Radio Newsline", "The RAIN Dial-Up", and other amateur radio news and information features each Saturday at 7:30 PM eastern. In addition to the C-band commercial satellite feed, the program is carried live on the WA0RCR Gateway 160 meter Net from Wentzville, Missouri on 1860 kHz and by tape delay at other times throughout the week.

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MOON NET

Moon Net is a new e-mail reflector for amateur EME operators that has been established by Michael Owen, W9IP with support of St. Lawrence University. This reflector is devoted to exchange of information regarding all aspects of EME operation. It is an unmoderated list open to anyone with an interest in the topic.

Moon Net traffic should adhere closely to EME related topics.

Posting dealing with VHF, satellites or general ham radio related topics are discouraged.

For more information please contact W9IP at his callbook address.

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10 METER NET

North Jersey has a new 10 meter Net. The group meets every Sunday 18:00 UTC on 28.357 with an alternate frequency of 28.362 Mhz. The net is sponsored by members of the Sussex County Amateur Radio Club.

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RADIO DBS

At its second annual Users' Conference WorldSpace Corporation reached consensus with its business partners and system users for the implementation of a new technical standard which will enable WorldSpace satellites to offer up to 300 channels of digital broadcasting to 4/5's of the world's population on low cost portable satellite radios called "StarMan," built by Motorola especially for WorldSpace.

Known as "Layer 3," the new standard for satellite to portable digital broadcasting was developed by the renowned Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits, of Erlangen, Germany. Layer 3 will allow "StarMan" radios to receive a broad range of audio signals with up to CD quality, and will also allow access to advanced multimedia services.

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STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL AEROSPACE COMPETITIONS

Several students are national winners in NASA's 15th annual Space Science Student Involvement Program competition. Twenty six national winners presented their projects at the National Space Symposium, May 6 - 10, Hotel Washington, 515 15th St., N.W., Washington, DC.

The Space Science Student Involvement Program is a national competition, co-sponsored by NASA and the National Science Teachers Association, to promote science, mathematics and technology achievement. Over 4,000 students in elementary, junior high and high school competed in five competition categories.

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TELECOM ON WWW

Telematrix Communications, has recently opened a new site on

the World Wide Web called "International Telecom Center." As far as we know, it's the only site devoted entirely to telecommunications information and aims to become the main listening post and forum for people interested in this field.

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AT&T ENCRYPTION SYSTEM

AT&T Bell Laboratories announced that it has developed a comprehensive security system for all types of commercial information services.

The AT&T Information Vending Encryption System is designed to protect such services as video on demand, home shopping and banking, software distribution, electronic publishing, and electronic news and alerting services.

The system works on communications networks of all sorts, including the Internet and other data networks, cable television networks and direct satellite broadcasting.

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PHONE SOLICITATION BAN UPHELD

A Northern California federal appeals court agreed with a congressional finding that automated, tape-recorded telephone sales pitches are a threat to privacy and upheld a federal ban on such calls.

The ban was blocked in December 1992, two days before it was to take effect, by U.S. District Judge James Redden of Portland. He said it was too broad and did little to protect residents from unsolicited calls, the majority of which are made by live callers.

But the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 3 - 0 on Monday that the law was a valid response to a problem identified by Congress and did not unduly restrict advertisers' freedom of expression.

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OBIT

Long time W1AW operator Murray Powell, W1QIS, died on May 1, 1995. He was 88 years old and retired in 1972.

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DX

In DX, ON4WW, will be active from Rwanda until the end of June. Check 3513 kHz at 20:15z and 1827 kHz at 00:30z, listening up. QSL via ON5NT.

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A-BOMB AT AGE 50

The 50th anniversary of the world's first atomic bomb test will be marked by a special amateur radio special event station operating from near Ground Zero, Trinity Site, in the Central New Mexico desert.

The Socorro Amateur Radio Association will operate NA5N from 11:00-17:00 UTC on Sunday, 16 July 1995, and will use the General phone and CW portions of the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands, depending on propagation. On the CW bands, a war-veteran straight key from the Pacific Theater of World War II will return to the air for this event.

Just before dawn on 16 July 1945, the Manhattan Project successfully tested the first atomic bomb at Trinity Site, about 36 miles southeast of Socorro, New Mexico. Trinity Site, now a part of the U.S. Army's White Sands Missile Range, normally is opened to the public only twice a year, in April and October. The Army is opening the site for visitors on the morning of 16 July for the 50th anniversary, and has granted permission for SARA to operate the special event station then.

As previously reported, another special event station will operate from Albuquerque, New Mexico as well.

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FLEXIBLE TRANSISTORS

French scientists have created a flexible transistor prototype by screen printing a graphite-based polymer ink to form electrodes.

Anna Kochan reported in the April 10th edition of Design News that researchers at the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique hope to develop smart credit cards, windshield displays for airplanes and cars, and roll-up TV and computer screens in the next few years.

The all polymer transistors will be larger than current amorphous silicon based devices, but polymer transistors can be manufactured without vacuums or high temperatures and cost much less to produce.

The CNRS molecular materials laboratory scientists expect a high degree of interest from Original Equipment Manufacturers who need the physical flexibility and have enough room to make it work.

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NO NOISE

Finally, Pat Kilroy of AMSAT says that there is a new way of

ending mobile noise. Pat says that he was reading thru the latest issue of a car audio catalog when he came upon a sure fire way to eliminate any noise from DC to 1 TeraHertz!

For only 170 dollars the particular supplier will sell you a 1 FARAD, 12 V capacitor that is guaranteed to kill pesky ignition noise. That's right. We said 1 FARAD at 12 Volts DC! Imagine adding that across your power supply line.

But one word of caution. Pat says not to discharge it across your car door unless you want to weld the door to the frame!

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And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

NEWSLINE
P.O.Box 660937
Arcadia, California
91066

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